

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A recording medium type determining apparatus for determining a type of an optical disc in the reproducing state where the tracking servo control is kept open, said apparatus comprising:

5 a signal generating section for generating a radial push-pull signal based on a read signal from a recording medium;

a processing section for processing said radial push-pull signal by means of autocorrelation; and

10 a determining section for determining the type of said recording medium based on the data sent from said processing section.

2. The recording medium type determining apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing section comprises:

a filter section for reducing level fluctuation components due to radial runout of said recording medium included in said radial push-pull signal;

15 a binarizing section for binarizing a signal outputted from said filter section;

an autocorrelation computing section for computing an autocorrelation value for a signal sent from said binarizing section; and

a maximum value detecting section for detecting a maximum value for a signal sent from said autocorrelation computing section.

20 3. The recording medium type determining apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said autocorrelation computing section comprises:

a data converting section for converting a signal sent from said binarizing section to signed data;

a delay/sign-negating section for delaying said signed data by a predetermined

period of time and negating the sign;

a multiplying section for multiplying said signed data by the sign-negated data sent from said delay/sign-negating section; and

an integrating section for integrating the multiplied data sent from said 5 multiplying section.

4. The recording medium type determining apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said predetermined period of time is a half cycle of a wobble signal included in said radial-push-pull signal.

5. The recording medium type determining apparatus according to claim 2, wherein 10 said processing section comprises a signal generating section for generating signals for controlling said autocorrelation computing section and the maximum value detecting section.

6. The recording medium type determining apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said determining section determines, by comparing the maximum value sent from said 15 maximum value detecting section to a prespecified reference value, whether said recording medium is a recording medium dedicated to read only one or a writable one.

7. A recording medium type determining method of determining a type of a recording medium in the reproducing state where the tracking servo control is kept open, said method comprising:

20 a signal generating step of generating a radial push-pull signal based on a read signal for a recording medium;

a processing step of processing said radial push-pull signal by means of autocorrelation; and

a determining step of determining the type of said recording medium based on the

data sent from the processing step.